

[Transcript from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Fiscal Year 2018, Enhancing Community Responses to the Opioid Crisis: Serving Our Youngest Victims webinar, which was held on June 6, 2018. The archived webinar can be found at: https://www.ovc.gov/grants/webinars_archive.html. The Solicitation can be found at <https://www.ovc.gov/grants/pdftxt/FY18-Opioid-Young-Victims-of-Crime-508.pdf>.]

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Good afternoon everyone, and welcome to today's webinar, OVC Fiscal Year 2018, Enhancing Community Responses to the Opioid Crisis: Serving Our Youngest Victims, hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime. Today's webinar is about an open and competitive solicitation, therefore, OVC staff will be unable to answer any questions pertaining to the development of your proposal. So at this time, I would like to introduce you today--to today's presenter, Bethany Case, Victim Justice Program Specialist for the Office for Victims of Crime.

BETHANY CASE: Hello everyone and welcome to today's webinar. I'm Bethany, and I am so pleased to be here with you today, to walk through and answer questions about this new funding opportunity. Right here on this slide, you'll see that this is just kind of a general outline of what we're going to be doing today, going over the mission of the Department of Justice, as well as the Office for Victims of Crime; talking about the scope of this program; and walking through the actual solicitation. So, everything that we talk about today--that I will talk about, I'm pulling directly from this solicitation, so I'll reference specific pages so that you can go back and cross reference the information. So I encourage all of you, if you're able to, have a copy of that solicitation with you, so you can kind of follow along and mark it up. And hopefully some of your answers might be, you know, might already be answered by the solicitation.

All right. So we'll go ahead and get moving. So, tying this program to the mission of the Department of Justice, we believe here at the Office of Justice programs and the Office for Victims of Crime that this program furthers the larger department's mission by providing resources to support state, local, and tribal efforts to assist crime victims.

Okay. And in case you are not yet familiar with the Office for Victims of Crime or OVC, as I'll refer to it today, our mission is to enhance the nation's capacity to assist crime victims, and provide leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime. And you're going to hear me talking a lot today about crime victims, and what that means, and as well as you'll see that listed throughout the solicitation. And the reason for that is that, that is our statutory authority, and so that is what this funding will be limited to.

So the scope of this program, there are really three key kind of themes or areas that I want to draw your attention to. And these are further defined, and within the solicitation. So here you have the page numbers and the footnote numbers where you can find this exact definition. We're really looking at the Opioid epidemic or crisis, commonly referred to both, and so on page one of the solicitation, footnote one, you can see the definition of really what we're looking for and at. Children and youth, specifically, is what this particular program we'll be looking at, and you can see how children and youth are

defined for the purpose of the solicitation on page four, footnote three. And then crime victims, what do we mean by crime victims? We provided a definition on page four, footnote four to provide further clarification about what we mean when we say that someone is a crime victim.

So contained in this solicitation, there are two purpose areas. Purpose Area 1 is really directed to support direct services programs and Purpose Area 2 is designed to support a Training and Technical Assistance provider, who will assist all of those direct service providers, who are successfully awarded grants through Purpose Area 1. You can see the purpose areas begin to be broken out on page one, but you'll also see this reflected and referred to on these two different purpose areas throughout the program solicitation.

The deadline to apply is here on page two of the solicitation. All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 10, 2018. And we really encourage you to submit your applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date. Oftentimes, applicants can face some technical glitches or our system maybe experiencing some problems, and so we really strongly encourage you to get ahead of--get ahead of things. More information that's provided in the solicitation about where you apply, how you apply, and what must be contained and--in your application.

So some important contact information, and if you are having problems applying for the opportunity, the funding opportunity, first here we have listed the Grants.Gov Customer Service Support Hotline. So feel free to reach out to them for those technical issues related to applying within that system. And then second, if you have any questions about what is contained in the solicitation, what, the requirements might be any type of programmatic questions, or if you need other general assistance with developing your application or interpreting the information contained here in the solicitation, you can reach out to our National Criminal Justice Reference Center--Response Center , NCJRS' response center, and they are prepared, and they stand ready to quickly and sufficiently respond to all of your--all of your questions.

So we're going to start on page five with the program solicitation to really start to get into what we're talking about here. So, on page five, and I'm really going to try to minimize the noise-related of me flipping papers, but really on page--well, page four to five, we really get into some of the nuts and bolts of what we're trying to do, and how we--are trying to do it. So the purpose of the solicitation is to address an urgent gap in crime victim services related to the opioid epidemic or opioid crisis, and to expand upon existing, or if you like, to establish new programs to provide services to children and youth, who are victimized as a result of this crisis.

We anticipate that this program, through the solicitation, will support service providers to expand their current scope and expertise, to make sure that children and youth, who OVC has identified as right now perhaps the most vulnerable victims impacted by this crisis, are supported as they heal from the impact of crimes and substance abuse in their life.

Our statutory authority is something that I mentioned earlier in our call, with my focus very heavily on crime victims. So you can see on--it's actually page four, the information about the statutory authorities. You can see the actual statute, if anyone wants to look it up, but we just--kind of provided some clarifying information based on common questions that we get, that describes allowable--the scope of allowable expenses and some that are not. So here, just very short and succinctly we said, and this is exactly the same language in this solicitation, funding for this program is authorized by the Victims of Crime Act, VOCA. It limits allowable expenses to those associated with serving crime victims. Examples include programs and services that provide awareness about victimization and the resources available to victims, direct services that provide for the needs of crime victims, and support to crime victims to navigate the complex systems often associated with victimization. And for children and youth, we know that some examples of those complex systems are the criminal justice system, the child welfare system, but there may certainly be others. And we want to just kind of call out to folks to let you know ahead of--way ahead of the game that primary prevention programs are not permissible under VOCA, and are not an allowable cost under this solicitation.

So moving on, I kind of pulled out really some of the highlights of the longer narrative that's contained on page four and five, just to kind of give you a general sense of what we're trying to do. But really we know that across the nation, communities are struggling to respond to drug abuse and addiction, particularly right now from opioids, and the associated social and economic consequences, and those include crime victimization. We know that there's a strong link between crime victimization and substance abuse, and that's been evidenced for some time, and we know that we can't successfully address these issues and effectively serve crime victims by addressing these in silos, or by one single discipline or agency. We believe that our office, the Office for Victims of Crime, and you all, the crime victims field, can play a critical role in supporting young victims affected by the opioid crisis. And we're really committed to supporting the expansion of crime victim services and community partnerships to make sure that these young crime victims are supported no matter where, when, or how they may access services.

So we really outlined a framework in the--in the solicitation, and this begins at the very bottom of page four and then continues onto page six and beyond, but we started--we wanted to provide folks with an overall goal of what we're really trying to accomplish with this program. And our goal...

So the overarching goal of this program is to support children and youth who are crime victims as a result of the opioid crisis. So you guys are going to see these real clear three themes coming through throughout the solicitation. Children and youth who are crime victims as a result of the opioid crisis. So, just to talk a little bit more about how each of the Purpose Areas would apply this goal.

So Purpose Area 1, who most of you likely are interested in applying for. The Direct Services applicants will achieve this goal by providing direct services and support to

these young victims, and at your own community or jurisdictional level. And you define what that means. And Purpose Area 2 is our--those who are interested in providing Training and Technical Assistance to Purpose Area 1 applicants will be supporting these Direct Service providers as they develop their new initiatives, and enhancing their existing efforts.

So the goal is then broken down according to Purpose Area, by--into objectives to achieve that goal. And then we provided activities that we believe will help to support you--support the work to accomplish the objectives and the overarching goal. And then we provided some examples of deliverables, and those deliverables will definitely correlate right back to the performance measures that you'll be required to report on. So please look through the solicitation. We tried to make it really clear for folks. It's broken down according to Purpose Area, and it's--some of the language is broad and that's intentional. It's because we want to be sure that we are flexible, and supporting a range of programs at various stages of development. So, you will use this general framework that's provided here. And you will make it your own. You'll provide detailed plans to describe specifically how your program will successfully undertake, track, communicate, and complete your proposed project.

Oh, shoot. Sorry about that, guys. Went too fast, okay. So then--let me make sure I didn't skip over anything else. Okay. Some more real critical information.

I'm not going to go kind of Purpose Area, by objective, by activities, by the deliverables. That's really outlined in the solicitation for you. But I do want to just kind of highlight some other key points. You have an established timeframe that--to be able to do this work. And that would it--begin on October 1st of this year, 2018. And it will end on, no later than September 30, 2021. Unfortunately, that is the--that is the timeline that you have to work within, and no time extensions will be granted because of our time restrictions that are outlined in our authorizing statute, which is VOCA. So just be very mindful of this timeframe, and all the work that you need to undertake within this timeframe, and be sure to connect that back to a realistic timeline, and a realistic budget proposal.

We'll also be providing you with a performance measurement tool if you are a successful applicant. And that will ensure that we have--we are gathering consistent data. And gathering critical information to be able to report out larger to the public and congress, and so on, about what's being accomplished through this--through this grant program. And we wanted to assure you that we will not be requesting any personal-- personally identifiable information associated with those crime victims that you're serving. And once you all enter the data, the way that we'll be using that is that will be rolled up into these larger OVC-wide program reports, and then shared more publicly. And that's important because we're a Federal Government agency, and so, we absolutely want to provide--ensure that we are accountable for the--for the federal dollars that are being spent, and to be transparent about how they're being used. And also to grow the field's knowledge and expertise in this area, so we want to make sure that folks out there, who, perhaps did not get a grant award, but are all still, you know,

doing this important work in their communities, have access to the information about the work that you're doing.

So, after you decide which Purpose Area you're going to apply for, which I suspect all of you already know, you're going to look at the objective activities and deliverables outlined on these--in the solicitation. You're going to find your Purpose Area, and Purpose Area 1 is listed first, and then Purpose Area 2 is listed later. And you're going to really kind of walk through, you know, familiarize yourself with what's being asked in this framework, and begin to kind of determine how this relates to your program, and it--and to really put the meat on the bones through your proposal.

Some information about how much funding we have and how we anticipate that being allocated. There is a total--right now, of up to \$26 million available through this program solicitation for all awards. And so for Purpose Area 1, the direct services, we--our plan is to award these as grants. And you can look some more in your solicitation page 10 and 11 to find out what that means, and how it's different from other funding mechanisms. We plan to award approximately 32 grant awards. The amounts we expect will range from \$300,000 to \$750,000. And it will be the period, the timeline, will be for that 36 months, that we--that we previously discussed. We really strongly encourage everyone to carefully, very carefully, budget for your critical needs. Really think through--and the budget detail worksheet will help you with that. Think through what you need, how much it'll cost, make sure it's allowable within this context, talk with your colleagues and others. But we really want to make sure that folks know that we are expecting you to fully spend, invest all of the money that you are awarded during that grant period. So, don't ask for the top end of the range, if you don't need it. Ask for what you need, and what you can realistically spend on this important project in your community.

So for Purpose Area 2, it's going to come out of that same large bucket of \$26 million. And we anticipate that we will award one grant of--award, it'll actually be a cooperative agreement. You can read some more about what that means in the solicitation. And that award will be for up to \$2.5 million. Same period of performance and look in the solicitation for more about, you know, how to execute partnerships. As I mentioned earlier in the--in the webinar and reflected here in the solicitation. One single organization or agency can't do this alone, or discipline. So look to your partners and look for that expertise that you know is needed to successfully support the broad range of direct service providers.

So, some eligibility information, this is pretty standard for our program solicitations for direct service providers, you're going to look to that--look on page 14 of the program solicitation for that information. You need to make sure that you fall within this eligibility criteria.

And then for Purpose Area 2 applicants, we want to make sure that you fall within this eligibility criteria that we've established and you can find that also on page 14. So for--no matter which application--which Purpose Area you're applying for, these points apply to you both, and that's contained in page 14 of the solicitation. Let's see. We want to

make sure that folks who--and we encourage you to have, you know, be carrying out this work in partnership with other agencies and organizations. They can--certainly be allocated funding through your proposal. But one entity needs to be the lead applicant, and everyone else will be--will be proposed to subrecipients. And as you're working to identify your lead applicant, you need to make sure that these, you know, that these folks will have the primary responsibility for administering the funding, managing the project, and this includes subrecipient monitoring. And just know that you can only apply--you can only submit--as a lead applicant, you can only submit one application. You can be a subrecipient on--or a partner on multiple applications. But you yourself can only submit one application.

And, you know, another point, this is federal funding, so it's important that you know that you must forego any profit or management fee that might be associated with this project.

So we're going to move onto application and submission information. And that's really everything else, on this solicitation. And here at OJP, we have a template that's used across offices, so that it really provides consistency and it meets our federal regulations for what we need to communicate in these program solicitations. So on 15--page 15, we talk a little bit about what we call critical elements. And those are the Program Narrative, the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative, which is one document, and Letters of Support from project partners. If you do not have these critical elements contained in your application, your application will not move forward for further review. So, and of course, there's a lot more that an application must include. So we have those items outlined on pages 15 through 27. We also wanted to give you a sense of how your applications are scored and they'll be reviewed by external peer reviewers who have expertise in serving crime victims and providing services to children and youth who are crime victims. And this is how kind of the content is weighted. You can look--refer back to the solicitation, of course, for a lot more detail about what is entailed in each one of these items. But we just wanted to make it really easy and transparent to let you all know what we're looking for and how it's going to be scored.

There are a lot of other items associated with having a federal grant award. And so a lot of the items contained here on this slide really reflect a lot of those--a lot of those items. And there's information about how to reference those federal regulations, how to find out more, how to get training on them. But for those of you who, you know, some of these concepts might be foreign and this might be your first application for federal funding. Get some help. Ask for help. A lot is expected of you but you're doing important work and we want to support you in that. But we have to be sure that you're following the law in terms of how you use the money.

So how do you apply for funding? Well, so, your first step is that you're going to go in and register through Grants.Gov and then you can begin submitting your application materials. And you can build your application over time before you hit that final submit button. All of the steps are outlined on page 30 of the program solicitation and there are a lot. There are a lot of steps. Start early. I'm a former grantee, so I feel your pain. This

is what, you know, and this is what we have to work with. And there just simply are no gray areas when it comes to these steps. So start early. Ask, you know, seek help from colleagues or others that you know. Feel free to reach out to the contacts to get more information and don't wait until the last minute.

So again, we include in this slide about how the applications were graded. Actually, I want to step back a slide just to highlight something that is kind of a newer development. On page--and let me--excuse the paper rustling for a moment. But there is--to apply for a grant you have to have a number of identifying numbers, and you kind of have to be registered with some different government--I don't even know what I would call them--some different government registries. And so on page 30, the second item, item number two is acquiring, if you don't already have it, or maintaining your registration with SAM, SAM.gov. There are apparently some hiccups with this right now and I think that everyone across the government is working to figure out some solutions very quickly. But know that this is--this is a challenge. And so you might want to start looking into this. Make sure you have a SAM number already or--go ahead and take the steps that you're going to need to get one if you don't already have one. And if we get additional guidance or something is different than what's written here in the solicitation we'll send out future messages about that.

Let's see. Federal Award Administration information, this really has to do with kind of how you're going to find out and then what. So all award notifications are made by September 30th, 2018. That's considered the end of the federal fiscal year. And those notifications come via email through the Grants Management System. So whoever has been--has registered and listed themselves in the application as the point of contact and the authorizing official, that's where those notifications and those email notifications are going to be made. So oftentimes people kind of reach out and say, "Do we know yet? Do we know yet?" And we say, "Be sure you know who registered themselves as your point of contact because they're going to get the email and be sure to check your spam folder because sometimes, you know, an email from GMS will go into your spam folder." At that time if you are successfully getting an award there will be detailed instructions contained in that communication on how to access and view the award documents. And then the steps that has to be taken in the Grants Management System to start the award acceptance process.

So I'll say that we've discussed earlier that the start date is October 1st of 2018. Realistically, it's going to be a little bit later than that because you will have to go through all the steps of reading the award document, determining whether you can commit to successfully undertaking this project, that you understand all of the special conditions associated with that. And then sign all of those if you approve and get those back to us. So, you won't be able to get started on the first day of the award is what I'm--what I'm trying to say.

And please remember, these are some tips from my years of working here and working with grantees and trying our best to support folks through the application process. This application is only the very first step of a very involved relationship with the Federal

Government. So I know, folks, you know, talk a lot about we're applying for grants, we're applying for grants. We got a grant. And then guess what? The work does not end there. It kind of begins there. So of course, grant applications are so important and, you know, you're graded on that to be able to successfully get a grant award. But just know that that is only the beginning and you're going to be committed to working with the Federal Government for the entire project period plus some after because there are some auditing requirements associated even after you're done with your grant. So, just know there's a lot, but that doesn't mean you can't do it. It just means, you know, just be cautious, and be prepared, and be sure to build those staffing and those personnel in to your grant proposal to make sure that--to make sure that they can help you successfully manage this grant.

You have to be willing and able to abide by all of these regulations. And there's some very serious consequences, so just to give you a heads up if--when you sign that award document and say "Yes, I will do all these things." You really then must do all of those things otherwise you could face some pretty serious consequences down the road.

And ask for help. Read everything. Read it over, and over, and over again. Take notes on your solicitation. Talk with others and make sure that you're having other people lay eyes on and review your draft materials, so that they can provide you plenty of feedback and input in your draft.

And so, that was a lot. We're ready for questions and answers. Though, just to let you all know that a lot of the answers will be directing you back to the program solicitation. We can't--as Mary Jo spoke earlier--we can't advise you on your specific proposal or your ideas. We can only reference the information that has been conveyed in writing through this program solicitation.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: So with that, we'll start with our first question and we actually did have quite a few here and some of them are very interesting.

"Will OVC be prioritizing projects in those states disproportionately affected by the opioid crisis or is this to build capacity in those communities that are building a comprehensive community response?"

BETHANY CASE: So I would say that the weighting criteria that is outlined on page--on this slide but in your solicitation pages 32 to 34. That is how we are essentially grading applications and that's what our decisions will be made on. And an application must include and reflect all of the allowable expenses that we have outlined here in the solicitation.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "What is the age of youth?"

BETHANY CASE: So, if you look to your footnote on page--and excuse the paper rustling, we talked about this early on in the--today's webinar. I'm just scrolling back to

that slide. Children and youth are defined on page four of the solicitation in footnote three.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And if you like, a link to the solicitation, it has been added to the chat feature earlier on. So you can actually click on that during the webinar and if you want to kind of scroll through it, you can do that.

“When we describe our goals and object--when we describe our goals and objectives, do we list all activities and deliverables as outlined?”

BETHANY CASE: Yes. And we--so we provided a framework of the items that we expect. But you certainly want to customize much of that to what you're doing. But make sure that you're addressing what we have outlined here in the solicitation. If there's more that's appropriate and relevant to successfully undertaking your project, feel free to list that as well.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “Are Purpose Area 1 applications required to address all objectives?”

BETHANY CASE: All of the objectives outlined for Purpose Area 1, yes.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “Are the performance measurements listed in the RFP complete or will you add to the list?”

BETHANY CASE: Let's see. I'm going to flip to my page of performance measures. I believe that we have a chart in the solicitation that lists the performance measures and I would say that that generally reflects what the performance measures will be that you will--likely those will be expanded upon in the performance measurement tool. So they may--they may not use the exact same language or they may ask for greater detail about the measures outlined here, but the folks who developed our performance measures pulled directly from what's outlined in the solicitation. So the goal, objective, activities, and deliverables is what they're looking at when they develop the performance measures.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “Is it 32 awards for \$300,000 to \$750,000 for the whole 3 years or is it \$300,000 to \$750,000 for the first year?”

BETHANY CASE: It's--that amount reflects the 36-month period. Three years.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “If we receive VOCA subawards from the state, are we still eligible to receive this important award?”

BETHANY CASE: Although--yeah, absolutely. You can receive funding from all types of different sources. However, you do want to look on one requirement of the solicitation is you are--you're expected--some of these federal regulations, that you'll want to look deeper to in this program solicitation, you cannot use this funding to supplant and you

cannot double dip or have a grant through say State VOCA and then also apply to do--through this grant to do the same thing. You cannot be funded to do the same duplicative efforts funded by two different sources. So if you are getting other federal grants or other funding sources, we want you to describe that in the application and talk about how this project that you're proposing will be complimentary to those efforts and not duplicative.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "When you note that all recipients must forego management fee, does that include a federally approved indirect rate or can we still obtain that?"

BETHANY CASE: Oh, we absolutely encourage everyone. There's information contained in the solicitation about the indirect cost rate and of course, we--you know, that is an allowable expense. What that, foregoing management fees means is say you develop--you work to develop, I don't know, some public awareness materials, and then you decide that you're going to charge people for those. That's what you cannot do. You cannot be profiting from the work that you're doing with these federal grant funds.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "To clarify, reference to management fees, is this the same as indirect cost?"

BETHANY CASE: No.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "I'm sorry. I missed the one item in the list of must-haves. Project Narrative, Letters of Support, and a third. Can you repeat that one, please?"

BETHANY CASE: Sure. And I'm going to scroll back through these slides to bring that slide back up and then also, remind you of the page number. So these are what we consider critical elements. If you don't have these critical elements contained, you don't even make it in the door for further review. So that is slide number 23, and--so what you're looking for in the solicitation, it says critical elements. And that--those are those items that we review to get you in the door for review. So, Program Narrative, which includes statement of the problem and all of these other items. Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative or in short budget, and there is a template that you are required to use, that information is contained in the solicitation. And then the Letters of Support from your project partners and some more information about that, is outlined on page 18. So again, those are the critical elements that get you in the door for further review, but it's not everything that must be included. There are many more requirements.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Could you please speak to--could you please speak about evidence-based?"

BETHANY CASE: Sure. So in the solicitation, actually what I'm going to do is just refer you to the page in the solicitation that talks about evidence-based--let's see, practices. And is there a specific context or page number that you're asking about evidence-based?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: So you can go ahead and send a followup question and we'll get to it as we move further down.

BETHANY CASE: But the solicitation does specifically go into detail about evidence-based programs or practices on page 10.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Organizations that are providing trauma-informed direct services to children and youth victims of crime may not necessarily know that the victimization was a direct result of opioids. Is this grant an appropriate funding mechanism to build data and tracking?"

BETHANY CASE: In part, yes. If that involves providing direct services to these crime victims. And really, you know, you're applying to this grant, you have to meet those three criteria of the scope: crime victims, children and youth, related to the opioid crisis and epidemic. And I encourage you to go back and review the footnote, and how opioid crisis is defined for the purposes of the solicitation because I think that that might give you some insight as well.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: I'll take this next question. "Will you respond to questions after the presentation?"

And you may submit questions after the presentation to NCJRS and their Response Center. There's a phone number you can call.

BETHANY CASE: Let me go back to that.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Email address as well as the web chat and that is on slide 31, and we're going to flip to that right now and you can get that information and write that down. As a reminder too, the slides will be posted to the OVC website. So it'll be available there. And actually the information about NCJRS is also listed in the solicitation. I believe it's on the first page of the solicitation.

So one question. This is--seems to be perhaps maybe more of a thank you.

BETHANY CASE: Oh.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Thank you. This is one of the best funding webinars I have ever attended.

BETHANY CASE: Guys, that's really cool. Thank you. It's not the most glamorous job in the world but it's good to know that, you know, it's so important that you get the information that you need.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "All tribes in our nonprofit organization are represented by a board of directors from their respective tribal council. Will one resolution from our tribal designated board of directors suffice for the tribal authorizing resolution?"

BETHANY CASE: Let's see. There's some information specifically contained in the solicitation about the tribal resolution. Let me see if I can pull that up real quick. But really the purpose behind the tribal resolution is to make sure that whoever is proposing to undertake this project on behalf of, or in conjunction with a tribe, has the tribe's permission and authority to do that. So we don't want to put any unintended barriers up because it is absolutely critical to also get tribes the important support and resources that they need. So let me just make sure that what I'm saying is consistent with--let's see, tribal--uh-hmm. So I'm just doing a quick search through the solicitation. Okay. So on page 23. And guys, I know this template is a bear. On page 23, it talks some more about a tribal authorizing resolution. And know that, you know, we have a really tight turnaround like applications this year and I wish that was not the case. But know that, if you're not able to get a fully executed and signed tribal resolution that meets the criteria outlined here in the solicitation, you can certainly submit a draft.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yes. You will have access to the PowerPoints for those that were not able to be on the call. Again, they will be posted to the OVC website. Give or take, probably in less than 10 days. I think we're getting them up there in about 5 days and we will send you an email, letting you know when that information has been posted.

“I noticed in the footnote that children and youth includes infants, but with regards to them being a crime victim, would an infant exposed to opioids in utero count?”

BETHANY CASE: So that depends on where you live and what's going on in that area. So I would say--let me see. Let me refer to the footnote again, so we're looking at page four, footnote number four, and it refers to newborns through teens. So I would say, you know, once that child is born through age 18 is really the scope of what we're looking at. And then as long as you're connecting it back to how the solicitation has defined crime victim in footnote four. You know, every jurisdiction is different and we don't want to impose anything that's appropriate or not appropriate for your jurisdiction.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “Regarding overlapping of grants, does this apply to grants awarded from private foundations and local foundations?”

BETHANY CASE: No matter what, you better not ever be duplicating the efforts that--or double dipping. Of course, you should not put all your eggs in one basket essentially, you know, trying to really undertake a project based on one funding source. So of course, you want to have that kind of diversified funding mechanism. But what you need to be telling us about in the--in your application is how you're using those other funding sources to complement. So there might be some areas that for example, primary prevention; VOCA, our statute the interpretation--the legal interpretation said, no, you cannot fund those expenses through this funding. But you might have, you know, some funding through a foundation that could pick up kind of that piece of the project. So really that's what we're looking to. You can't ever buy any food for the professionals and that kind of stuff. So you might use a different, you know, funding source for that. But really the--we want everyone to be able to build out very diverse kind of funding

portfolios. But just know what our issue is--that the Federal Government's issue is, if you're using two funding sources to do the same work, and you're double dipping, or, you know, paying someone twice, that's illegal.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "When you write the budget, do you write it for the 36-month period or do you build it for a 12 month--do you build a 12-month budget and additional 2 years? If we need to max--if we need the max of \$150,000 will it be for 36 months?"

BETHANY CASE: So you're--no matter who you are, all of you--every single application should have the defined time period that we have outlined here, this 36-month time period. And you're ask is for a bucket of money that will support that entire time period. When you go to--in the solicitation, there is a link to the Budget Detail Worksheet, and the NCJRS Response Center also has some--is really familiar with responding to inquiries about that document, but they have examples within that link that shows you what a completed budget looks like, and really walks you through what should be contained in that budget, But what you're--what you're asking for is, this is your ask for 3 years. How are you going to--how are you going to use it? And just a heads up that your program can't start, although, we tell you maybe a miracle will happen, and I would love that. But in my experience, programs have not been able to start obligating the money on October 1st because there's some paperwork associated with, you know, with that, but hopefully soon thereafter.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Is the solicitation open to local government agencies, such as judicial services?"

BETHANY CASE: Absolutely.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Does the maximum number of pages only apply to the program narrative?

BETHANY CASE: Yes. But you don't have to get to the maximum amount of pages. So just saying sometimes less is more. Speaking as one of the people who will be reading all of the applications.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Community partners are mentioned several times. Must we have community partners already identified and engaged upon beginning the project, or may we develop them as part of the grant funded project?"

BETHANY CASE: You can develop those partnerships, certainly as part of the grant-funded project, but you need to have some ideas of who that's going to be. And remember that 10 percent of your scoring is those letters of support. So, we're really looking to, you know, folks that you're going to be working with. We know that this cannot be accomplished by a single agency, a single discipline, a single--be programmatic silo. We know that this takes community partners. So, we also, you know, also acknowledge that you only have 30 something days to develop your applications. So, you know, with that caveat, but do your best to be identifying these folks, and

getting these letters of support. At least starting to kind of build those foundational partnership blocks.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "When thinking about direct services, would we also utilize federal guidelines related to VOCA?"

BETHANY CASE: I'm wondering--I don't want to assume, but I'm wondering if you all might be--if this question might be referencing the state VOCA Assistance rule?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: So if you could send a clarifying followup, that would be very helpful, thank you.

"Does methamphetamine qualify as an Opioid?"

BETHANY CASE: So, I'm going to refer you back to page one of the program solicitation, where we define "opioid epidemic." And so, I'll just go ahead and read it here. Although the--although the opioid epidemic is the current substance abuse crisis facing Americans, OVC recognizes that drug trends change, and individuals who use illegal drugs (or misuse legal drugs), often use or migrate to multiple other substances. Therefore, it is OVC's intent to create a program that foremost provides for the needs of young crime victims affected by substance abuse, regardless of the type of substance in question.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: One second please.

BETHANY CASE: And, folks, if you could, you know, refer to these definitions and use them in your application, that's, you know, that's part of what you're gonna be graded on. Just making sure that it--that what you're proposing follows within the scope of what's outlined in the solicitation.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Somebody wants to know if they missed it or if you mentioned anything about a matching requirement?"

BETHANY CASE: No matching requirement.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Reading footnote one, it does say that needs for young crime victims, who are affected by substance abuse, regardless of type of substance. Does that mean money could be spent on youth, who have not been affected by opioid crisis, but other substances?"

BETHANY CASE: Yes. You'll really need to talk about that in your solicitation.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Clarifying regarding the VOCA guideline question. "I am referring to the federal register program guidelines, which outline the VOCA allowable and nonallowable services, etc., our bible for the VOCA Award."

BETHANY CASE: Absolutely, use that bible. I use that all the time. And talk about that in your program solicitation, or your program application.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. If you would just give us a few seconds here, we want to go through--just make sure that we haven't missed anything. So, just please, patience a little bit.

BETHANY CASE: Uh-hmm.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Okay. So it looks like there's a question here.

“On this slide, that says high risk determination, is that the same as financial management questionnaire?” If we are getting your question correct, great; if not, please clarify.

BETHANY CASE: So we are some--going to pull up--there's some information specifically about if you're designated as high risk. And what that means is--okay. Let's see. Yes, so on--beginning on page--I'm looking for the page number, so, I'm trying--okay. Page 23, number seven. And now I'm just going to scroll back to seven. It says that yes, it does include applicant--all right. So, you do disclose your high risk status on the financial capabilities questionnaire document. But basically, what we're saying is that, “hey, if you have been identified as high risk before, you--like, if you have another Federal Government award and you've been identified as high risk,” so that goes onto page 24, “you must disclose that.” So, the former--but you can disclose it on that form. You don't designate yourself a high risk, it's something that has been kind of imposed upon you by another federal grantmaking--some type of federal grantmaking agency, and usually what that means is you have been audited or--by the government and they found some deficiencies in your financial systems and executions. So we want--if you are high risk, we want you to tell us about that, but also tell us about what you're doing to resolve that because you don't--you're not high risk forever. You can get off that list, so get off it.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And this appears to be the last question, and I will actually take it. “When you post the slides, will you post the questions too?”

Yes, this will actually be posted as well as a transcript of the entire webinar, so the questions will be in the transcript. They won't be identified as question answer. You would have to read through, and you'll see them, and it'll be obvious that they're at the end after Bethany has finished with her entire presentation. Hopefully that explains everything okay.

BETHANY CASE: Uh-hmm.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And that does appear to be the last question, and we are actually currently past 2:00, which is when the webinar was supposed to end. So if there's nothing else...

BETHANY CASE: Yeah, just thanks so much everyone for joining. We know that a lot of children in youth are being impacted and their families by substance abuse, and the opioid crisis. And we just thank you for your interest and your eagerness to undertake, you know, this process to really try to do something great for them. So thank you. And no matter what, if you don't apply, thank you for all the work that you're doing out there. We really appreciate it.